Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Agriculture is the basic industry in South Dakota providing the markets and the raw material for much of the state's economy; and,

Whereas, South Dakota can prosper only as the agricultural industry has the purchasing power to absorb the goods and services needed and the markets and transportation to handle the produce raised; and,

Whereas, Farmer-owned cooperatives, a basic part of our American private enterprise system, help individual farmers retain their identity and strength; and,

Whereas, Cooperatives have made a substantial contribution to the development of a progressive agricultural economy in South Dakota, providing the means by which farmers can increase their bargaining power and achieve economic recognition in the market place; and,

Whereas, Cooperatives have not only benefited the agricultural industry, but the general public as well, by placing a priority on people, making them a rigorous part of the American business system:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 2003, as

COOPERATIVES MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-ninth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State